

When walking over Muskeget Island I have noticed that these birds leave the nest when I am a *long* distance away, being probably apprised by the commotion made by the other Terns, as the Wilson's (*Sterna hirundo*), Arctic (*Sterna paradisæa*) and Roseate (*Sterna dougalli*), of my invasion of their precinct, and mounting high in the air circle around, continually giving vent to their peculiar cries. They have two distinct ones, but I do not feel competent to so put letters together that they will convey the sound of either to the reader. One of these is the peculiar note from which this bird probably derives its name of Laughing Gull, it being a weird, wild, maniacal sound, bearing a resemblance to a laugh, which at once impresses one on being heard. I should not call them courageous birds, as far as I have observed them, for I have frequently seen a single *Sterna hirundo* chase and put one to flight, which would endeavor to escape without offering any resistance. I have also seen four or five Laughing Gulls *concertedly* chase and put to flight a single *Sterna hirundo* which offered no resistance to such odds.

While I do not know if it is always the case elsewhere, I have often noticed that these Gulls keep together and fly in pairs, and even if a number are about, this characteristic is noticeable. Should danger be apprehended they will mount high in the air and circle, continually uttering their peculiar cry, which can be heard for a very long distance. I consider them rather shy except when they have young.

---

## ADDITIONAL NOTES ON THE BIRDS OF THE SUWANEE RIVER.

BY ARTHUR T. WAYNE.

THE month of March, 1892, the writer spent at Branford, Florida. Trips were made on both sides of the river, and as far down as where the Santa Fe Creek empties into the Suwanee. This region has already been described by Messrs. Brewster and Chapman, therefore I will not describe it anew. The following

species which I observed during the month of March, were not recorded by Messrs. Brewster and Chapman.

**Tantalus loculator.**

**Aramus giganteus.**—Common all along the Suwanee. From Santa Fe Creek to Week's landing, fifteen miles from the Gulf, I found this species actually common. It breeds in March.

**Totanus flavipes.**

**Ægialitis vocifera.**—Common resident.

**Colinus virginianus floridanus.**—I found the Quail very abundant at Branford, and throughout the forests bordering the river.

**Accipiter cooperi.**—Breeds. A common species, even in June, when it was the terror of the poultry yard.

**Falco sparverius.**—A common resident.

**Megascops asio floridanus.**—Resident. All I examined were in the red phase.

**Antrostomus vociferus.**—I shot a single individual on March 16, but it was badly mutilated and only the tail feathers were preserved. The keeper of the hotel who is very familiar with this bird, told me he heard its note every spring at Branford.

**Zonotrichia albicollis.**

**Spizella socialis.**

**Spizella pusilla.**

**Certhia familiaris americana.**—The Brown Creeper was common from March 10 to 20, inclusive.

The first week in April I left Branford and went to Old Town, sixty miles down the river, where I remained until the first week in August. I visited Old Town again in February, 1893, and remained until the last week in May. I give here a list of the birds I observed which have not been recorded from this region, with dates of arrival.

**Pelecanus erythrorhynchos.**—This is a common species on the Gulf, near the mouth of the river, where they congregate in vast numbers. It remains until the middle of May.

**Fregata aquila.**—Occasionally seen flying very high over the river just before a storm. Also seen at 'Fishbone.'

**Botaurus lentiginosus.**—One bird noted March 3, 1893.

**Ionornis martinica.**—April 8 (1892). Breeds.

**Gallinula galeata.**—April 10 (1892).

**Ictinia mississippiensis.**—April 20 (1892).

**Coccyzus americanus.**—A common species. Breeds in May.

**Chordeiles virginianus chapmani.**—April 5 (1892).

**Contopus virens.**—April 23 (1892).

*Empidonax acadicus*.—April 15 (1892). Breeds commonly in the swamps.

*Dolichonyx oryzivorus*.—April 15 (1892).

*Icterus spurius*.—An immature male observed April 23, 1893.

*Poocætes gramineus*.—Common until April 15.

*Passerina cyanea*.—April 25 (1892).

*Vireo solitarius alticola*.—The only specimen, secured February 23, 1893, must be referred to this form.

*Helmitherus vermivorus*.—April 4 (1892).

*Dendroica tigrina*.—An adult male in high plumage, taken April 15, was the only one seen.

*Dendroica cærulescens*.—April 18 (1892).

*Dendroica pensylvanica*.—April 10 (1892).

*Dendroica striata*.—April 24 (1893). Not common.

*Seiurus noveboracensis*.—Taken April 24, 1893.

*Geothlypis agilis*.—This species arrives late. I shot a female on May 10 and a male the next day. Both were on the ground, among saw palmetto, in the river swamp.

*Geothlypis formosa*.—April 21 (1892).

*Turdus mustelinus*.—Only a single bird heard singing April 24, 1893.

The following species evidently winter numerously in this region, as fifty or more individuals of each were noted on February 13, the time of my arrival: *Mniotilta varia*, *Compsothlypis americana*, *Seiurus aurocapillus*.

#### REMARKS.

*Campephilus principalis*.—I obtained thirteen specimens in April, and saw about ten more. A young female taken April 15, was about two weeks from the nest. I never observed it singly, it being always seen in company with two or three others of this species. I was told by old hunters that they breed early in February. The locality where this bird is to be found at all times is what the people call 'burn-outs.' These are large tracts of heavy timber which the forest fires have destroyed; and the dead trees harbor beetles, etc. A nest which I examined was dug in a live cypress about fifty feet high.

*Vireo flavifrons*.—I found this bird breeding commonly everywhere. A pair had their nest in a large red oak tree near the house in which I was staying.

*Helinaia swainsonii*.—Breeds abundantly on the lower Suwanee. This is the most southern record of its breeding.

*Helminthophila bachmani*.—This species is only a migrant. It does not breed in the Suwanee River bottom, as Mr. Brewster suspected. I secured, all told, about fifty specimens.